

REMARKS

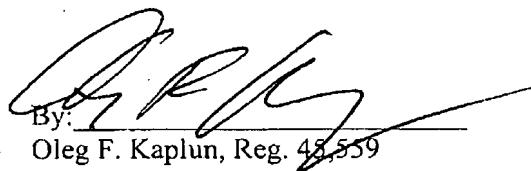
Applicants have added new claims 23-40. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 21-40 are now pending in the present application.

Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,735,445. Applicants have submitted a Terminal Disclaimer in order to obviate this rejection.

As for claims 23-40, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable and in condition for allowance. Therefore, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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